Maintenance of NH-2 and 8

†3245. SHRI PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that heavy losses are being incurred constantly for the last three years due to irregularities and faults in the maintenance of National Highways Nos. 2 and 8 in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of action taken against the contractor in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of International Shipyards

3246. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are exploring the possibility of setting up two international shipyards in the country subject to favourable technical analysis and feasibility; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including new coastal sites/existing shipyards identified, if any, for the purpose and its present status?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is exploring the possibility of setting up two international size shipyards in the country subject to favourable technical analysis and feasibility study. The sites are yet to be identified.

Metal scrap at Nhava Sheva

3247. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the pile up of heavy metal scrap at Nhava Sheva International Container terminal is likely to lead to increased congestion this year;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.